

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for generating a digital image comprising:

receiving an image at a camera;

5 generating a first digital image in response to the image at the camera;

generating a second digital image in response to the first digital image at the camera, the second digital image comprising an encrypted form of the first digital image;

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storing the first and second digital images at the camera.

2. The method for generating a digital image according to Claim 1 further comprising communicating the second digital image to an authentication center.

3. The method for generating a digital image according to Claim 2, wherein the second digital image is communicated wirelessly to the authentication center.

4. The method for generating a digital image according to Claim 1, wherein the image is received through a lens associated with the camera.

5. The method for generating a digital image according to Claim 1, wherein generating the second image comprises encrypting the second image using a camera key associated with the camera.

6. The method for generating a digital image according to Claim 1, wherein generating the second image comprises encrypting the second image within a predetermined time.

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7. The method for generating a digital image according to Claim 1, wherein generating the second image comprises encrypting the second image using a non-symmetric encryption algorithm.

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8. The method for generating a digital image according to Claim 1 further comprising associating an annotation with the first image.

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9. The method for generation a digital image according to Claim 8, wherein the annotation is associated with the first image prior to generating the second digital image.

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10. The method for generating a digital image according to Claim 8, wherein the annotation comprises embedded text.

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11. The method for generating a digital image according to Claim 8, wherein the annotation is encrypted as part of the generation of the second image.

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12. The method for generating a digital image according to Claim 1 further comprising associating a serial number with the first image.

13. The method for generating a digital image according to Claim 12, wherein the serial number is encrypted as part of the generation of the second image.

14. A system for generating a digital image comprising:

a digital camera having a memory;

an application stored in the memory and operable to:

5 receive an image;

generate a first digital image in response to the image;

generate a second digital image in response to the first digital image, the second digital image comprising an encrypted form of the first digital image; and

10 store the first and second digital images in the memory.

15 15. The system for generating a digital image according to Claim 14, wherein the application is further operable to communicate the second digital image to an authentication center.

20 16. The system for generating a digital image according to Claim 15, wherein the second digital image is communicated wirelessly to the authentication center.

25 17. The system for generating a digital image according to Claim 14 wherein the camera further comprises a lens operable to receive the image is received through.

30 18. The system for generating a digital image according to Claim 14, wherein the application is further operable to encrypt the second image using a camera key associated with the camera.

19. The system for generating a digital image according to Claim 14, wherein the application is further operable to encrypt the second image within a predetermined time.

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20. The system for generating a digital image according to Claim 14, wherein the application is further operable to encrypt the second image using a non-symmetric encryption algorithm.

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21. The system for generating a digital image according to Claim 14, wherein the application is further operable to associate an annotation with the first image.

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22. The system for generation a digital image according to Claim 21, wherein the annotation is associated with the first image prior to generation of the second digital image.

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23. The system for generating a digital image according to Claim 21, wherein the annotation comprises embedded text.

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24. The system for generating a digital image according to Claim 21, wherein the annotation is encrypted as part of the generation of the second image.

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25. The system for generating a digital image according to Claim 14, wherein the application is further operable to associate a serial number with the first image.

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26. The system for generating a digital image according to Claim 25, wherein the serial number is encrypted as part of the generation of the second image.